Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh

2021. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have created any non-lapsable fund for financing elementary education called the "Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh" and made budgetary allocations for Rs. 12,532 crore in 2005-06 as compared to Rs. 8,000 crore in 2004-05;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the financial assistance proposed to be given by Government during 2005-06 in respect of Maharashtra and Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 'Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh', a non-lapsable fund for financing-elementary education was created *vide* Order issued on 14th November, 2005, to received the proceeds of the Education Cess which are to be utilized for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-day Meal Scheme. Budgetary allocations for Elementary Education during 2004-05 and 2005-06 are as follows:—

2004-05	Rs. 7750 crores (RE)
2005-06	Rs. 12241.76 crores. (BE)

(c) Funds released during 2005-06 are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of States	SSA/NPEGEL	MDM
Maharashtra	1161.48	3959.25
Punjab	14683.89	—

Special children under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

2022. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are plans to bring speical children under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and his Ministry has done any survey to find out the approximate number of such children in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has identified different categories of such children and the different educational requirements of such children; and

(d) whether his Ministry plans to open new teachers training institutions for teachers to teach such special children, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Data collected under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan so far, indicates that there are 20.14 lakh children with special needs in the 6—14 years age group.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir. Facilities for training of teachers under the Central and State Governments are being utilized for the purpose.

Adhar Grihas under Swadhar Scheme

†2023. SHRI VASANT CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Adhar Grihas' constructed under 'Swadhar' Scheme have since been closed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of such 'Adhar Grihas' in the country, whether Government realize that their number is not sufficient;

(d) whether Government propose to construct more 'Adhar Grihas' in the rural areas;

(e) whether HIV positive women and mentally retarded women are kept together with all the other women in the "Adhar Grihas"; and

(f) whether Government feel that HIV positive women and mentally retarded women need special attention?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No homes constructed under 'Swadhar Scheme' have been closed.

(c) Under the Short Stay Home Scheme which was launched in the year 1969, 342 Short Stay Homes are functioning throughout the country as on 31.3.2005. In addition, the Swadhar Scheme was launched in the year 2001-2002. So far, 118 Shelter Homes have been sanctioned under Swadhar Scheme. The Government's aim is to spread the scheme horizontally throughout the country and open at least one Shelter Home in each district of the country. Steps are being taken to achieve the same.

(d) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.